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MABUHAY ANG PILIPINO!!!

BAGUIO CITY AND BENGUET

LONG LIVE THE FILIPINO!!!

Cordillera autonomy bill certified urgent

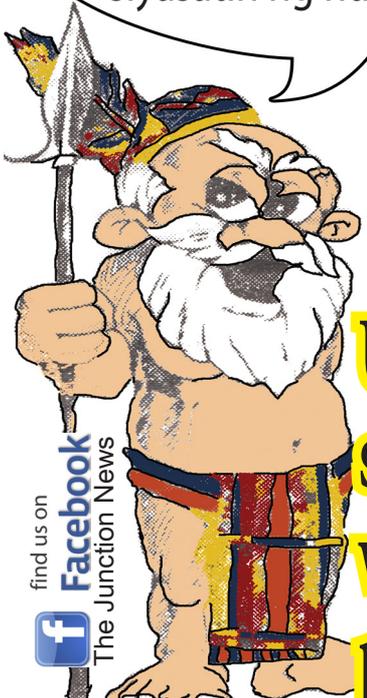
BAGUIO CITY - President Rodrigo R. Duterte certified House Bill (HB) 5343, the bill seeking the establishment of an autonomous region in the Cordillera, as an urgent administration measure alongside the proposed enhanced Bangsamoro autonomous region bill for appropriate action by the members of the 17th Congress.

Speaking before more than 120 Cordillera leaders who attended the meeting with him Tuesday night at the Malacanang Palace, the President recognized the need to devolve more powers of the national government to the local government units, including the autonomous regions to be established, greater control of resources by the host communities, and the implementation of more development projects in the countryside to ensure that the people will reap the fruits of genuine development and not be **Cont. on page 5**



BAD IMPRESSION FOR BAGUIO TOURISM - Alay Sa Kalinisan Search for the 10 Most Cleanest and 10 Most Dirtiest Barangays of Baguio board of judges chairperson Dr. Julie Cabato can not hide her disgust during a surprise inspection of transportation terminals, bars and restaurants near the tourist spots and central business district area. The ASKI board of judges headed by Cabato noted scattered litters of cigarette butts, moma spit and very dirty comfort rooms which make a bad impression to visitors and tourists. /By Bong Cayabyab

Ang isang tunay na Cordillera Autonomous Region ay OK, pero ang Federalism ay dapat suriin at siyasatin ng husto!!!



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Culture defines the identity of Cordillera as a region- NCCA

LA TRINIDAD Benguet - Continue to showcase the rich culture of the Cordillera in every celebration as culture is what defines the people in this region.

National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) Executive Director Rico Pableo Jr. stressed this in his keynote message during the Cordillera Day celebration at the Benguet Sports Complex last July 15, here.

Pableo described that watching the dance performances during the Cordillera Day celebration more than convinced him of the richness of the culture in the region that must be continuously and eagerly celebrated for the spirit of Cordillera culture to continue to live on.

Celebration or promotion of culture and

the arts as an instrument for progress and development is part of the agenda of the present administration under the Philippine Development Plan, he added.

In the promotion of Cordillera culture towards development, Pableo shared two important Filipino virtues that the government is also pushing - "Malasakit or being socially responsible and "Malikhain" or being creative.

Culture and arts must bear the character of "Malasakit" or be sensitive and socially responsible as any development must be for the good of everyone while "malikhain" is for Cordillera, as one people, to showcase creativity and innovation in making a difference for the region, he stressed.

Meantime, Pableo also expressed the NCCA's support to the region's pursuit of regional autonomy as attaining an autonomous status will not only strengthen Cordillera's identity as a region but also the identity of Cordillera culture and arts.

The 1987 Constitution provides for the establishment of autonomous region in Cordillera and the Muslim Mindanao.

For the Cordillera Day celebration, contingents from the CAR provinces of Abra, Apayao, Ifugao, Kalinga, Mountain Province and host Benguet came together for the parade and program to show their unity towards the attainment of regional development and autonomy. (JDP/CCD and R. Garcia/PIA CAR/ UC Intern

Duterte tells agencies to review P402-million Loakan airport rehab

BAGUIO CITY - President Rodrigo R. Duterte ordered the Department of Transportation and Railways (DOTR) and the Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (CAAP) to review and implement the proposed rehabilitation of the Loakan airport in the city to help boost the growth of tourism region-wide and open the opportunity of inter-regional aviation linkages with identified hubs in Davao city and Cebu.

The President was handed pertinent documents on the proposed rehabilitation of the Loakan airport by Mayor Mauricio G. Domogan when Cordillera leaders met with the Chief Executive at the Malacanang Palace in Manila Tuesday night.

Domogan, chairs of both the Regional Peace and Order Council (RPOC) and the Regional Development Council (RDC) in the Cordillera, informed the President that the Loakan airport is the only airport in the region which help to improve the region's high-end tourist arrivals and opening the opportunity of increased trade

with other areas in the country and guarantee additional market for the region's highland vegetable produce.

Aside from being an economic and tourism booster, the local chief executive pointed out the Loakan airport could also serve as a strategic facility in responding to natural disasters as what had happened when the killer 7.9 earthquake struck the city on July 16, 1990 and when the city was temporarily isolated from other parts of northern Luzon due to Typhoons Pepeng and Ondoy in 2009.

He underscored the importance of improving the equipment and facilities of the airport to serve commercial air travels to and from the city even when the weather is not good or during the rainy season.

"We are elated that the President gave priority to the proposed rehabilitation of the Loakan airport because we really need the airport to significantly improve our tourist arrivals and enhance the transport of our vegetable produce to other parts of the country," Domogan stressed.

Loakan airport has

been closed for commercial operations for over six years now but it still services to chartered and military flights.

Earlier, the RDC-CAR endorsed to the DOTR the rehabilitation of the airport to make it an all-weather air facility to help bring in increased tourist arrivals and robust economic development not only in the city but also in other parts of the region.

Local hotels and restaurants in the city also joined the snowballing clamor for the national government to include as one of its priority projects the rehabilitation and upgrading of the airport as the gateway to the Cordillera primarily for more high-end tourists to visit and advertise to the world the region's scenic destinations beneficial to the growth and development of rural communities.

Domogan said the local government and the RDC-CAR will try to constantly follow-up the matter with the concerned government agencies for actions that will be taken to help bring back the growth of the local tourism industry./By Dexter A. See

City dads, workers told to participate in programs

BAGUIO CITY - Mayor Mauricio G. Domogan urged all officials and employees of the local government to actively participate in the various programs and activities not only of the city but also other local governments and concerned governments in the region.

The local chief executive expressed disappointment over the very poor attendance of city hall officials and employees in the Baguio leg of the Cordillera Unity Gong

Relay last Friday at the city hall grounds and the 30th Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) founding anniversary main program held at the Wangal Sports Complex in La Trinidad, Benguet sponsored by the Benguet provincial government and the Cordillera office of the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP-CAR).

"We should always make it a point to actively participate in programs and activities organized not only by the local gov-

ernment but also other local governments and concerned government agencies for us to send the message of belongingness to our counterparts and our fellow public servants. We should abide with legitimate orders issued for us to participate in programs and activities outside our offices so we will interact with our fellow public servants," Domogan stressed.

He pointed out the advance notices for city hall officials and employees to attend the

gatherings were issued to serve as reminders for them but it seems most of them disregarded the said notices as part of their duties and responsibilities as city officials and

employees.

According to him, city hall officials and employees should be proud of the fact they are part of the local government which is also a part of the region, thus, the need for them to always join whatever government or civic events organized even during weekends and holidays because it is part of their moral obligation to do so.

Domogan commended Assistant Human Resource Management Officer Edith Dawaten for being the only department head of the local government that joined Domogan and the Baguio delegation who joined the

30th CAR founding anniversary parade from the Benguet Capitol to the Wangal Sports complex for the main program.

He claimed by actively participating in the various events organized by other local government units, concerned government agencies and the private sector, officials and employees demonstrate their unity and teamwork worthy of replication considering they represent the only highly urbanized city in the Cordillera, thus, the need for them to excel in such endeavors.

Domogan is optimistic that city hall officials and employees will open their eyes to the reality that

there is a need for them to show better unity and teamwork in their attendance to future events that require their active participation to erase the bad impression in the minds of the public that city hall officials and employees are not that sensitive in taking part in events outside the local government.

It has always been a practice of the local government to require all officials and employees to join events organized by other local government units, concerned government agencies and the private sector for greater participation in civic activities region-wide./ By Dexter A., See

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US firm to study city's waste disposal

BAGUIO CITY - A United States-based waste disposal company is now studying the city's waste disposal system for it to come out with the recommendations on the appropriate solutions that can be adopted.

City General Services officer Romeo D. Concio

said the proponents want to introduce the anaerobic digester as one possible solutions to the city's waste disposal system, thus, the company officials and technical people studying the current state of our garbage before they will make their recommen-

dations. "The interested US-based proponent will be introducing a German anaerobic technology being used in California and we asked them to fastrack the formulation of their report and submit it to the inter-agency committee as the private

partner of Benguet Corporation (BC) is about to select the technology provider for the Antamok waste-to-energy facility," Concio stressed.

He explained the 24 technology providers have already been short-listed to only 8 proponents but it could be further

reduced to 4 depending on the assessment of the inter-agency committee tasked to evaluate all the pending proposals for the operation of a world-class waste-to-energy facility at the Antamok open pit site in Itogon town.

The inter-agency committee tasked to

review the most feasible and environmentally-acceptable waste disposal technology is composed of representatives from relevant departments of the Baguio City government, Itogon municipal government, BC, Cordillera office of the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB-CAR), the private developer

Cont. on page 5

CA upholds legality of city's anti-batching plant edict

BAGUIO CITY - The 17th Division of the Court of Appeals (CA) upheld the legality and constitutionality of Ordinance No. 043, series of 2007 or the city's anti-batching plant ordinance overruling the decision of a lower court that declared the said local legislative measure as flawed.

In a 31-page decision signed by Associate Justices Ramon A. Cruz, Marlene Gonzales-Sison and Henri Lean Paul B. Inting, the CA cited there being a mixture of questions of facts and of law, the local government correctly instituted its appeal.

The decision added the assailed ordinance was passed by the City Council in the exercise of its police power, an enactment of the local legislative body acting as agent of Congress and local government units, as agencies of the State, are endowed with police power to effectively accomplish and carry out the declared objects of their creation and they exercise police power through their respective legislative bodies.

Further, it stated the Local Government Code of 1991 empowered the local legislative bodies to enact ordinances, approve resolutions and appropriate funds for the general welfare of the city and its inhabitants and the proper exercise of the corporate powers of the city.

The decision pointed out the said rule is that every statute is presumed valid and on the party challenging its validity weighs heavily the onerous task of rebutting the said presumption and a reasonable doubt about the validity of the law should be resolved in favour of its constitutionality.

"Every court is charged with the duty of a purposeful hesitation before declaring a law unconstitutional, on the theory that the measure was first carefully studied by the executive and the legislative departments and determined by them to be in accordance with the fundamental law before it was finally approved. The presumption of constitutionality can be overcome by the clearest showing that there was indeed an infraction of the Constitution, and only when such a conclusion is reached by the required majority may the court pronounce, in the discharge of the duty it cannot escape, that the challenged act must be struck down," the decision stated.

The decision found **Cont. on page 9**

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The silent hero behind the Philippines' case vs China

MANILA, Philippines – Days after the Philippines won its case against China on July 12, 2016, seasoned diplomat Henry Bensurto Jr recalled a touching email from a junior officer of the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA).

The junior officer, whose name Bensurto withheld, thanked him for being the once “lonely voice” that pushed for a case against China over the West Philippine Sea (South China Sea).

“Oh, I cannot describe to you the pain,” Bensurto said in an interview with Rappler in August 2016, when asked to explain why he was called a “lonely voice.”

Bensurto, 52, was the silent hero behind the blueprint of the Philippines' case against China at The Hague, in the face of naysayers in his own department. His work led to the Philippines' historic victory against China, the first anniversary of which was marked on Wednesday, July 12. (READ: Rally world around Hague ruling, experts tell PH)

Former foreign secretary Albert del Rosario told Rappler on Friday, July 14, “I would consider Henry as a quiet hero and a true patriot for his expertise, for his conviction, and for his courage.”

“Without his important contributions, we may not have succeeded to the extent that had been achieved in obtaining a positive arbitral tribunal outcome to benefit the Filipino people and the world,” Del Rosario added.

Journalist Bill Hayton, in his book *The South China Sea: The Struggle for Power in Asia*, also wrote that Bensurto “is the brains behind the Philippines' policy in the South China Sea disputes.”

Bensurto's role in the case is widely known, too, among diplomats in the region. In fact when we did our interview at the Manila Hotel lobby in August 2016, an Indonesian official passed by, greeted Bensurto, and congratulated him: “I remember this is your idea to bring the case to court.”

EDITORIAL

'In my nature to take risks'

Bensurto, who has been Philippine consul general to San Francisco since June 2014, has been an achiever since his youth.

When he was 25 years old, he took two of the Philippines' hardest exams in the same year. Bensurto ended up passing both the Bar Exam and the Foreign Service Officer Exam in 1991. “Maybe it's in my nature to take risks,” he said.

When the results of both exams came out, “it was a dilemma, because when you study law, you always have the instinct to litigate in a court.”

“But I decided, at that time that there were few diplomats, maybe I can put to good use the legal skills in the context of diplomacy as well,” he said.

Attorney Bensurto then entered the foreign service, and a few years later studied public international law at Oxford University under a Chevening scholarship.

An alumnus of both the University of the Philippines and San Beda College, he graduated from Oxford with distinction in 1996.

No 'pass your paper' mentality

At the DFA, Bensurto was the kind of diplomat whom his bosses often wanted to keep in the Philippines because they needed his skills.

His batchmates, for instance, got their first international assignments after 3 years as junior officers based in the Philippines.

It took Bensurto 9 years before he got posted abroad. “The reason for that is because my boss asked me to stay put and help,” he explained.

One of the projects he handled was the development of the Roppongi property in Japan, which the Philippines got as reparation from Japan after World War II. Bensurto and his colleagues finished this project in the late 1990s, and now “one of the most beautiful embassies we have overseas is the one in Roppongi, Japan.”

Looking back at these experiences, Bensurto said he has no regrets even if he was often stuck in the Philippines.

“I think there's a saying in the department: Don't make yourself indispensable, because when you make yourself indispensable, you get stuck,” he said.

In his case, Bensurto said, “I just have this mentality that when you're given work, you have to do the best that you can, because you owe it not only to your government and to your country.”

Bensurto said he resists a “pass your paper” mentality.

First partnership with Del Rosario

Bensurto brought this work ethic with him when he was finally assigned to Washington DC in 1999. He worked there as consul and legal officer.

It was in Washington DC that he first worked with Del Rosario, the Philippine ambassador to the US from 2001 to 2006.

In the US, Bensurto faced one of his toughest tests, when the US justice department “tried to assume criminal jurisdiction” over executives “of all the telecommunication companies in the Philippines,” including PLDT. This was for the alleged violation of the US anti-trust law.

Del Rosario requested him to address this problem. Bensurto said he thought of arguing the Philippines' case in a court of law, even if private lawyers felt pessimistic “because the batting average of the US Department of Justice in terms of anti-trust violations was almost 100% at that time.”

“But I never wavered in that,” Bensurto said.

And the Philippines won. “It was also an ‘impossible’ undertaking, an ‘impossible’ task,” he said.

Referring to Del Rosario, he also pointed out, “This is our first partnership.”

It's ADR and myself'

Years later in Manila, Bensurto and Del Rosario worked together again by 2011, when the former ambassador became secretary of **Cont. on page 5**

KABATAAN, KARAPATAN MONG MAKIALAM!

#SOanoNA



KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

US\$10,000 allotted for
public toilets of Aetas



BY: ATTY. BATAS MAURICIO

LIFE'S INSPIRATIONS: “... Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends'...” (Jesus Christ, our God and Savior, in John 15:13, the Holy Bible).

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A DAY OF THANKSGIVING, AND OF ACCEPTING CHALLENGES: It was a day of thanksgiving alright, but it turned out to be a day likewise of bravely accepting challenges to continue the great service that Rotarians do for the poor and the needy for the next 365 days.

And everybody was thankful that this thanksgiving and facing up to the challenges of continuous “service above self” for the next one year or so took place at the 37th Handover and Induction Ceremonies of the Rotary Club of Intramuros on Thursday, July 20, 2017, at the Champagne Room of the Manila Hotel.

My wife, the outgoing All Star President Angelina Mauricio of the Rotary Club of Intramuros of Rotary International District 3810, was profuse in her expression of gratitude in her valedictory address, after serving as president for Rotary Year 2016-2017, under the capable stewardship of District 3810 All Star Governor Ernest Yuyek.

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RECOGNIZING GOD'S HELP FOR ROTARY: God of course topped the list of those she thanked, of course. Then, she also thanked the following: Governor Ernest and his wife Anna, the members of the Rotary Club of Intramuros, other Rotary Clubs both here and abroad and government and private agencies who all acted selflessly to give “service above self”, with “Rotary serving humanity”.

The newly-inducted president who will serve until June 30, 2018, young business entrepreneur Aries Balanay (the president too of the International Academy for Continuing Education, or IACE), on the other hand left no doubt of the readiness of his team to serve under the theme “Rotary: Making a difference”. He said he and his team are ready and committed to continue doing the good things that the Club has become famous for.

Lawyer Jamairy Concon Domado from Marawi City, the president of the Club from 2018-2019, talked about the bigger, better, and bolder actions of the members of the Club in helping all those in need, thereby establishing the “architectural framework” and brand of service that Club members discharge year in and year out, from its chartering in 1981.

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US\$10,000 ALLOTTED FOR PUBLIC TOILETS FOR AETAS: Incumbent District Governor Emmanuel “Loy” Cosico, meanwhile, assured the readiness of District 3810 to assist the Rotary Club of Intramuros in continuing its flagship projects, particularly in enabling native Filipinos like the Aetas of Pampanga and Tarlac to avail of basic health facilities like public comfort rooms in places where people defecate on roadsides, and just outside their homes.

Noting that the Club put up eight modern toilets costing about P350,000.00 in Sitio Babo, a village inside the posh Clark Freeport Zone in Clark, Pampanga under All Star President Angelina Mauricio, Cosico disclosed he already released some US\$10,000.00 to the Rotary Club of Intramuros so it could build more public comfort rooms for the Aetas.

At the end of the turnover of the presidency from Angelina to Aries, the Club awarded three fine arts students from schools in Metro Manila as the winners in its “Rotary Art Painting Contest”, in recognition of the 100 years that the Rotary Foundation has been doing good for the world. The winning paintings and the other entries are available for sale. Contact me through my email **Cont. on page 6**

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Cordillera autonomy bill...**from page 1**

left behind in their growth and development.

However, he said the control and supervision of one armed forces and the police will remain with the national government to avoid serious repercussions to the overall security of the archipelago from internal and external forces.

Further, President Duterte assured the Cordillera leaders he will allocate 2 slots for the region in the composition of the consultative commission he will be creating for the charter change that will pave the way for the shift from the existing unitary form to a federal form.

The meeting of Cordillera leaders with the President was worked out by officials and members of the Regional Development Council (RDC) in the Cordillera through the persistence of Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process Jesus G. Dureza that the proposed Cordillera autonomy bill be included in matters to be certified by the President as urgent for the appropriate action of Congress.

Present during the meeting with the President were Baguio City Rep. Mark Go, Benguet Rep. M. Cosalan, Abra Rep. Joseph Bernos, and Kalinga Rep. and Mountain Province Caretaker Allen Jesse Mangaoang, Benguet Gov. Crescencio Pacalso, Mountain Province Gov. Bonifacio Lacwasan, Jr., Ifugao Gov. Pedro Mayam-o, Kalinga Acting Gov. James Edubba, Baguio City Mayor and RDC-CAR chairman Mauricio G. Domogan, Tabuk City Mayor Ferdinand Tubban, Abra Vice Governor and Cordillera Peoples Liberation Army (CPLA) Chairman Ronald Balao-as, Apayao Vice Gov. Remy Albano, Benguet Vice Gov. Florence Tingbaoen, Mountain Province Vice Gov. Francis Tauli, Ifugao Vice Gov. Jordan Gollitiw and Kalinga Acting Vice Gov. Shirlynn D. Alunday, most municipal mayors and representatives from civil society groups and the CPLA.

Mayor Domogan presented the issues and concerns needing the intervention of the President and emphasized the need for the certification of HB 5343 as an urgent administration measure while expressing the individual and collective gratitude of the Cordillera leaders for giving them time to meet with him and assure him that the Cordillera leaders are now unified for the region's renewed quest for autonomy. /By Dexter A. See

US firm to study city's...**...from page 3**

Goldrich Natural Exploration and Development Corporation, the concerned barangays of Itogon, among others.

Concio claimed the proposal of the US-based company once completed will be included in the inter-agency committee's evaluation and assessment of which among the pending proponents will be able to satisfy the requirements of the developer.

BC offered the use of its Antamok open pit as potential site a waste-to-energy plant capable of converting the city's waste into renewable energy which could be sold to the grid.

Initially, Concio revealed one of the strategies being studied by the inter-agency committee is allotting a small residual containment area in the open pit for the city's residual waste instead of incurring hauling expenses of the same to the sanitary landfill in Tarlac even before a suitable technology for the waste-to-energy plant is put up on the site.

It will be recalled that the inter-agency committee already abandoned the plan for an engineered sanitary landfill in the Antamok open site because of the huge expense needed and long duration for its completion thus the option to pursue the put up of the waste-to-energy plant. /By Dexter A. See

EL MAESTRO SPEAKS**US Lawmakers' Ignoble Act****BY: CLYDE B. SACPA**

What would you feel if one of your distant neighbor looks at your house or hear a story about your house and launches an inquiry or give a comment about it as if they are living in the house too? Most of us will agree that we would be darn furious especially if the comments are baseless or at best it is nonsense. We wouldn't want other people to meddle on how we run our house and of course other people would not like the same thing happening to them.

Knowing that such act is not acceptable, and knowing their reactions when they found out that Russia might have interfered in their last national election, it still baffles me to hear that a US lawmaker is meddling with the way our government try to solve problem that they are failing to eradicate in their country. Perhaps these US lawmakers still thought that the Philippines is still colony of the US or perhaps they thought that the Philippines is a state of the US. It also made me wonder why these people have the audacity to say things like these when in fact their country has committed a lot of human rights violation to their black citizens and in general to all US citizens when they tried to scrap their health care or the Obamacare.

These honorable lawmaker a country on the other side of the world must set their priorities straight. They don't have jurisdiction over the Philippines and if they want to meddle in our business here how about they atone the tons of abuses they have done to our country first. They have used the Philippines and now they are using it again for grand standing to show the world that they have high regards to human rights.

Well, we might need to iron out things here on how we solve the drug problem of our country but I think, as a sovereign nation, we are the one who have the word about it. We are the ones who knows what is really happening.

Editorial

foreign affairs.

from page 4

Bensurto said Del Rosario "wanted a more creative solution" to the South China Sea dispute "because we were like talking to a wall."

Back then at the DFA, Bensurto was the most equipped to tackle this issue.

On top of his studies in Oxford, where he took as many electives as possible on the law of the sea, Bensurto also went to the Rhodes Academy of Oceans Law and Policy in Greece.

In 2007, he became the first secretary general of the Commission on Maritime and Ocean Affairs.

Bensurto later helped in passing the Archipelagic Baselines Law of 2009, for which he received the Presidential Award of Gawad Mabini (with the Rank of Commander), according to a profile uploaded by the National University of Singapore.

He also conceptualized a blueprint to address all of the Philippines' maritime concerns. In 2010, he finalized what he called the Philippine Maritime Security Strategy that aimed to create a Zone of Peace, Freedom, Friendship, and Cooperation (ZOPFFC) in the South China Sea.

Armed with his expertise, Bensurto was convinced of bringing China to court, particularly to a legally-binding compulsory arbitration on the sea dispute.

Bensurto discussed this with Del Rosario, and later the two of them brought this proposal to then president Benigno Aquino III.

"But I wouldn't want to grab credit on my own because from my perspective, I always understand the issue as a collective partnership of different people, and I think it was critical that ADR and I were on the same page," he said.

Aquino ended up deciding to file a case against China. The Philippines won this on July 12, 2016.

Bensurto said: "We don't call it ZOPFFC now. We call it the tribunal decision. What we have achieved in the →

Crime prevention policies, security report now required among city colleges

BAGUIO CITY – Colleges and universities in the city are now required to come up with crime prevention policies as a means of promoting crime awareness and security among their constituents.

The city council approved on third reading Ordinance no. 68 series of 2017 or "An Ordinance Promoting Crime Awareness and Security in Institutions of Higher Learning within the Territorial Jurisdiction of the City of Baguio" authored by Councilor Leandro Yangot Jr. for this purpose.

"This ordinance seeks to establish a program that would provide adequate and updated information for students, parents or guardians as well as the community of all our learning institutions on their safety and security policies and procedures," Yangot said.

He said this would address "incidents of bullying, fraternity wars, death, physical harm and incapacity inflicted to members and non-members which continue to hound the public especially the families victimized by either fraternity-related violence or any other cause."

As decreed, each eligible campus will be required "to collect this year and every year **Cont. on page 9**

arbitration is precisely ZOPFFC."

Asked if he alone presented the winning strategy to Aquino, Bensurto also referred to Del Rosario, whom he called by his initials ADR. "I would like to look at it as ADR and myself, because the truth of the matter is, ideas will not prosper if you don't have the right champion."

'Work has a higher meaning'

Bensurto, of course, had to face a number of challenges. "We had to overcome a lot of resistance, even from within," he said. "If not for ADR, I would have been a lone wolf."

In the face of his critics, the diplomat also credited his colleagues at the Commission on Maritime and Ocean Affairs – "the people who believed in me and worked with me all the way."

Del Rosario himself said Bensurto is "a man of conviction who stood up at all times to promote the national interest, notwithstanding difficult challenges which we had to surmount."

At the same time, Bensurto also pointed out "trade-offs" in his personal life. For one, because of the West Philippine Sea issue, he got stuck in the Philippines for more than a year after his last foreign posting, unlike many of his colleagues. "I was here for about 7 years."

He said this was difficult because Filipino diplomats get lower salaries when they stay in the Philippines. For diplomats, "your opportunity to help yourself financially is when you're posted abroad," he said.

"It had a lot of practical consequences for me and my family, because to give up a foreign assignment is not easy, in a sense, because you give up the opportunity to help yourself and your family, the financial ability to make your financial standing a little stable," he said.

Still, Bensurto said, "I have no regrets because it's for the country."

In the end, Bensurto said he draws his convictions from something deeper. "For me, work has a higher meaning."

Work, he said, "is something that you're able to do to help yourself, to help your family, and to help others."

"But more than that," he added, "and I have to apologize, and pardon me for this, it's something that you can offer to God. It's something that you can sanctify yourself with."

"Work is something that can be used as a raw material to get closer to God, to get closer to others, and at the same time help others," said the diplomat, lawyer, and silent hero named Henry Bensurto Jr./Rappler.com

Republic of the Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
First Judicial Region
BRANCH 6,
BAGUIO CITY

In Re: Petition for the Cancellation of A nnotation on the Birth Certificate of Minor Nathan Simon Tagata Bacolod

YVONNE MARIE T. JANAIRO,
Petitioner,

-versus-

CIVIL REGISTRAR OF BAGUIO CITY, JAN MARANZ BACOLOD,
Respondents.

Spl. Proc. Case No. 2635-R

X-----X

NOTICE OF INITIAL HEARING

Petitioner, Yvonne Marie T. Janairo, through counsel, filed a verified petition praying that after due notice, publication and hearing, judgement be rendered ordering the Local Civil Registrar of Baguio City to cancel the annotation on the birth certificate of her minor son Nathan Simon Tagata Bacolod which reads:

“ACKNOWLEDGED BY JAN MARANZ P. BACOLOD ON JUNE 29, 2012. THE SURNAME OF THE CHILD IS HEREBY CHANGED FROM TAGATA TO BACOLOD ON JUNE 29, 2012. THE CHILD SHALL BE KNOWN AS: NATHAN SIMON TAGATA BACOLOD, PURSUANT TO R.A. 9255”.

Let the petition be set for hearing on September 8, 2017 at 8:30 o'clock in the morning at the Regional Trial Court, Branch 6, “Bulwagan Ng Katarungan” (Justice Hall), Baguio City at which date, time and place, all persons interested may show cause why the petition should not be granted.

Let a copy of this Notice of Initial Hearing be published in a newspaper of general circulation in Baguio City once a week for three (3)

consecutive weeks at the expense of the petitioner.

Let a copy of this Notice of Initial Hearing be posted in four (4) public places at the Bulletin Boards of the City Market, the Post Office, the City Hall, and the Regional Trial Court, all in Baguio City at the expense of the petitioner.

Let also a copy of the Petition and Notice of Initial Hearing be furnished to the Local Civil Registrar of Baguio City, the Philippine Statistics Authority in Quezon City, the Office of the Solicitor General in Makati City and the Office of the City Prosecutor in Baguio City.

Serve a copy of this Notice of Initial Hearing upon the petitioner, her counsel and private respondent Jan Maranz Bacolod.

The Local Civil Registrar of Baguio City is also directed to comment on the petition within ten (10) days from receipt of this Notice.

SO ORDERED.

June 21, 2017. Baguio City, Philippines.

(SGD) CECILIA CORAZON S. DULAY-ARCHOG
Acting Presiding Judge

Publication Dates: July 8, 15 and 22, 2017

Republic of the Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT,
BRANCH 9
(FAMILY COURT FOR BENGUET PROVINCE)
FIRST JUDICIAL REGION
La Trinidad,
Benguet

IN RE: PETITION FOR DECLARATION OF PRE-SUMPTION OF DEATH OF ABSENTEE JULIAN DULALAS JR. y SUMALPONG UNDER ARTICLE 41 OF THE FAMILY CODE,

LALING DULALAS y BANG-ITO,
Petitioner.

SPECIAL PROCEEDINGS CASE NO. 16-E-0142

X-----X

ORDER

Petitioner, through counsel, filed this verified Amended Petition praying that after due notice, publication and hearing, an Order will be issued by the Court declaring absentee Julian Dulalas Jr. y Sumalpong Presumptively Dead, pursuant to law under Article 41 of the Family Code.

WHEREFORE, finding the Petition to be sufficient in form and substance, this court sets it for initial hearing on October 26, 2017 at 9:00 o'clock in the morning before the session hall of this court, Justice Hall, Justice Hill, La Trinidad, Benguet. All interested persons may appear and show cause, if any, why this petition should not be granted.

Let this ORDER be published at the expense of the petitioner in the Junction, a newspaper of general circulation in Baguio City and Benguet Province and the Cordillera Administrative Region, once a week, for three (3) consecutive weeks, the first publication to be made not later than July 23, 2017.

Furnish copies of this ORDER, together with copies of the Petition and its annexes, to the Office of the Solicitor General; the Office of the Provincial Prosecutor of Benguet; and, the Philippine Statistics Authority. Furnish also copies of this ORDER to the Junction and petitioner and counsel.

SO ORDERED.

This 7th day of July 2017 at La Trinidad, Benguet, Philippines.

(SGD) MARIETTA S. BRAWNER-CUALING
Presiding Judge

Publication Dates: July 8, 15 and 22, 2017

Republic of the Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
FIRST JUDICIAL REGION
La Trinidad,
Benguet
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE JUDGE

IN RE: PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT AS NOTARY PUBLIC



BAGUIO WATER DISTRICT
Serving Mankind is Serving God

INVITATION TO BID

The Baguio Water District is inviting all prospective bidders to bid for the following unserviceable items which shall be sold through **PUBLIC AUCTION** on July 28, 2017 at 2:00 pm at BWD Property Office, BWD Compound, Marcoville Barangay, Baguio City:

ITEM 1/GROUP A – VEHICLES/MOTORCYCLES/AIR COMPRESSORS:

QUANTITY/unit	PARTICULARS	Minimum Bid Price
One lot	Various vehicles: Mitsubishi L300 - SEF 170, SEF 138, SEF 193, Anfra SEF 166, Motorcycles: Motorstar SL 5166, Honda SD 8085, SD 8071, SD 8084	Php 64,038.09
1 unit	Air compressor, Airman, Isuzu C240 engine AC 377-001-01 (1993)	Php 257,621.73
1 unit	Air compressor, Airman, Isuzu C240 engine AC 377-001-02 (1996)	Php 342,831.74
1 unit	Air compressor, Airman, Isuzu C240 engine AC 377-001-03 (1996)	Php 180,048.48

ITEM 2/GROUP B – EQUIPMENT / BATTERIES:

Item No.	PARTICULARS	QTY	Minimum Bid Price
Lot 1	Various equipment: Mobile Gen set, Bucyrus drilling rig, dispensing pump with above ground tank and power chain saw	one lot	Php 31,801.03
Lot 2	Junk vehicle / motorcycle batteries	one lot	Php 20,510.00

ITEM 3/GROUP C – FITTINGS, TOOLS, VEHICLE PARTS, OFFICE SUPPLIES, ETC.:

Quantity	Item	Minimum Bid Price
Per kilo – one lot	Various junk vehicle parts, computer parts, office supplies/equipment, fire hydrants, fittings, tools, pumps, motors and electrical parts, communication and chlorination appurtenances	>Iron - P 7.00/kilo; >Brass - P 100.00/kilo; >Aluminum - P 50.00/kilo; >Hard plastic - P 1.50/kilo

CONDITIONS:

- Interested bidders may secure the prescribed bid form from Mr. Marcos Lamangan of the Property Section, BWD office, upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P500.00 (Five Hundred Pesos).
- Schedule of bidding:
Issuance of Bid Documents/Inspection of items: **July 24 to 26, 2017, 8 AM to 3 PM**
Deadline of submission and opening of bids: **July 28, 2017, 2:00 PM**
- The aforementioned properties are available for inspection at anytime during office hours from July 24, 2017 to July 26, 2017 at the BWD Property Office, BWD Compound, Marcoville Barangay, Baguio City.
- Submit two (2) sealed envelopes. **ENVELOPE A** shall contain a **BIDDER'S bond in CASH, CASHIER'S OR MANAGER'S CHECK** in the amount equivalent to at least 10% of the total bid price payable to BWD. **ENVELOPE B** shall contain the bid price using the standard bid form.
- Sale of Item 1/Group A shall be on an AS-IS-WHERE-IS Basis; Item 2/Group B on a **PER LOT BASIS** and Item 3/Group C on a **PER KILO BASIS AS ONE LOT**.
- Award shall be given to the highest and responsive complying bid.
- The bidder's bond shall be forfeited in favor of BWD on the following grounds:
a) In case of unjustifiable refusal of the winning bidder to accept the award within five (5) days from the issuance of the Notice of Award,
b) The winning bidder refuses to withdraw the items within thirty (30) days after payment.
- The District reserves the right to reject any or all bids without offering any reason, waive any required formality and award the contract to the bidder whose proposal is deemed most advantageous to the District. The District assumes no obligation to compensate or indemnify the bidder for any expenses or losses that may be incurred in the preparation of bids, nor does it guarantee that an award will be made.

BWD Disposal Committee

17-NC-0403
ATTY. RICARDO ADISTON COLINIO, JR.,
Petitioner.

X-----X

NOTICE OF HEARING
Notice is hereby given that a summary hearing on the above-entitled petition for commission as notary public for and the Province of Benguet filed by the above-named petitioner shall be held on August 18, 2017 at 1:30

o'clock in the afternoon before the undersigned Executive Judge of the Regional Trial Court, La Trinidad, Benguet.

Any person who has any cause or reason to object to the grant of the petition may file a verified written opposition thereto on or before the date of the summary hearing.

Let this Notice of Hearing be published once (1) a week for two (2) consecutive weeks in the Junction, a newspaper of general circulation in Baguio City and Benguet Province, the first publica-

tion to be made not later than July 28, 2017.
SO ORDERED.
La Trinidad, Benguet, Philippines, this 21st of July, 2017.

(SGD) JENNIGER P. HUMIDING
Executive Judge

Publication Dates: July 22 and 29, 2017

Kakampi mo from page 4
and numbers below.

-000-
WATCH “ANG

TANGING DAAN” AT FACEBOOK:
“Ang Tanging Daan” is a Bible exposition and prayer session for everyone, in English and Filipino, 24/7, worldwide, that can be viewed at www.facebook.com/angtangingdaan.
Reactions: 0917 984 24 68, 0918 574 0193, 0977 805 9058.
Email: batasmauricio@yahoo.com.

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Transportation and Communications
LAND TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING AND REGULATORY BOARD
Cordillera Administrative Region
Baguio City

ANDREW WADIWAD
Applicant
CASE No. 92-CAR-628
NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application filed on June 29, 2017 for the approval of EXTENSION of VALIDITY of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate PJ service for the transportation of passengers and freights on the line: BAGUIO PLAZA- CAMPO SIOCO and Vice Versa with the use of one (1) unit.

NOTICE is hereby given that this Board shall hear this application on August 9, 2017 at 4:10 PM the LTRFB Office, Pacdal Baguio City in which date and time applicant shall formally submit his/her/their evidences.

At least ten (10) days prior to the above date, the applicant/s shall publish the NOTICE once in one (1) daily newspaper of general circulation in the Cordillera Administrative Region.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written oppositions supported by documentary evidence on or before the above date, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant/s and if they so desire, appear during the hearing.

This application shall be acted upon the Board on the basis of its records and the documentary evidences submitted by the parties, unless the Board deem necessary to receive additional documentary and/or oral evidence.

WITNESS, the Honorable ATTY. JOSE EDUARDO L. NATIVIDAD, Regional Director, this 11th day of July 2017, Baguio City.

ATTY. JESSIE C. BALAGOT
Hearing Officer

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Transportation and Communications
LAND TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING AND REGULATORY BOARD
Cordillera Administrative Region
Baguio City

IMELDA MUNDA
Applicant
CASE No. 2010-CAR-425
NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application filed on June 29, 2017 for the approval of EXTENSION of VALIDITY of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate PJ service for the transportation of passengers and freights on the line: BAGUIO PLAZA- TRANCOVILLE and Vice Versa with the use of one (1) unit.

NOTICE is hereby given that this Board shall hear this application on August 9, 2017 at 4:10 PM the LTRFB Office, Pacdal Baguio City in which date and time applicant shall formally submit his/her/their evidences.

At least ten (10) days prior to the above date, the applicant/s shall publish the NOTICE once in one (1) daily newspaper of general circulation in the Cordillera Administrative Region.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written oppositions supported by documentary evidence on or before the above date, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant/s and if they so desire, appear during the hearing.

This application shall be acted upon the Board on the basis of its records and the documentary evidences submitted by the parties, unless the Board deem necessary to receive additional documentary and/or oral evidence.

WITNESS, the Honorable ATTY. JOSE EDUARDO L. NATIVIDAD, Regional Director, this 11th day of July 2017, Baguio City.

ATTY. JESSIE C. BALAGOT
Hearing Officer

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Transportation and Communications
LAND TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING AND REGULATORY BOARD
Cordillera Administrative Region
Baguio City

IGNACIO OPPIL
Applicant
CASE No. 2012-CAR-808
NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application filed on June 29, 2017 for the approval of EXTENSION of VALIDITY of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate PJ service for the transportation of passengers and freights on the line: TINGLAYAN - TABUK CITY, KALINGA and Vice Versa with the use of one (1) unit.

NOTICE is hereby given that this Board shall hear this application on August 11, 2017 at 3:25 PM the LTRFB Office, Pacdal Baguio City in which date and time applicant shall formally submit his/her/their evidences.

At least ten (10) days prior to the above date, the applicant/s shall publish the NOTICE once in one (1) daily newspaper of general circulation in the Cordillera Administrative Region.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written oppositions supported by documentary evidence on or before the above date, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant/s and if they so desire, appear during the hearing.

This application shall be acted upon the Board on the basis of its records and the documentary evidences submitted by the parties, unless the Board deem necessary to receive additional documentary and/or oral evidence.

WITNESS, the Honorable ATTY. JOSE EDUARDO L. NATIVIDAD, Regional Director, this 13th day of July 2017, Baguio City.

ATTY. JESSIE C. BALAGOT
Hearing Officer

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Transportation and Communications
LAND TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING AND REGULATORY BOARD
Cordillera Administrative Region
Baguio City

IGNACIO OPPIL
Applicant
CASE No. 97-02-988
NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application filed on June 29, 2017 for the approval of EXTENSION of VALIDITY of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate PJ service for the transportation of passengers and freights on the line: TABUK - BONTOC and Vice Versa with the use of one (1) unit.

NOTICE is hereby given that this Board shall hear this application on August 11, 2017 at 3:25 PM the LTRFB Office, Pacdal Baguio City in which date and time applicant shall formally submit his/her/their evidences.

At least ten (10) days prior to the above date, the applicant/s shall publish the NOTICE once in one (1) daily newspaper of general circulation in the Cordillera Administrative Region.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written oppositions supported by documentary evidence on or before the above date, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant/s and if they so desire, appear during the hearing.

This application shall be acted upon the Board on the basis of its records and the documentary evidences submitted by the parties, unless the Board deem necessary to receive additional documentary and/or oral evidence.

WITNESS, the Honorable ATTY. JOSE EDUARDO L. NATIVIDAD, Regional Director, this 13th day of July 2017, Baguio City.

ATTY. JESSIE C. BALAGOT
Hearing Officer

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Transportation and Communications
LAND TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING AND REGULATORY BOARD
Cordillera Administrative Region
Baguio City

FREDDIE LAURETA
Applicant
CASE No. 97-01-1450
NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application filed on June 29, 2017 for the approval of EXTENSION of VALIDITY of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate PJ service for the transportation of passengers and freights on the line: BANGUED - SAN JUAN, ABRA and Vice Versa with the use of one (1) unit.

NOTICE is hereby given that this Board shall hear this application on August 11, 2017 at 3:25 PM the LTRFB Office, Pacdal Baguio City in which date and time applicant shall formally submit his/her/their evidences.

At least ten (10) days prior to the above date, the applicant/s shall publish the NOTICE once in one (1) daily newspaper of general circulation in the Cordillera Administrative Region.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written oppositions supported by documentary evidence on or before the above date, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant/s and if they so desire, appear during the hearing.

This application shall be acted upon the Board on the basis of its records and the documentary evidences submitted by the parties, unless the Board deem necessary to receive additional documentary and/or oral evidence.

WITNESS, the Honorable ATTY. JOSE EDUARDO L. NATIVIDAD, Regional Director, this 13th day of July 2017, Baguio City.

ATTY. JESSIE C. BALAGOT
Hearing Officer

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Transportation and Communications
LAND TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING AND REGULATORY BOARD
Cordillera Administrative Region
Baguio City

SATURNINO PALA-OG
Applicant
CASE No. 97-BC-384
NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application filed on June 29, 2017 for the approval of EXTENSION of VALIDITY of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate PJ service for the transportation of passengers and freights on the line: BAGUIO PLAZA- CAMPO SIOCO and Vice Versa with the use of one (1) unit.

NOTICE is hereby given that this Board shall hear this application on August 11, 2017 at 3:25 PM the LTRFB Office, Pacdal Baguio City in which date and time applicant shall formally submit his/her/their evidences.

At least ten (10) days prior to the above date, the applicant/s shall publish the NOTICE once in one (1) daily newspaper of general circulation in the Cordillera Administrative Region.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written oppositions supported by documentary evidence on or before the above date, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant/s and if they so desire, appear during the hearing.

This application shall be acted upon the Board on the basis of its records and the documentary evidences submitted by the parties, unless the Board deem necessary to receive additional documentary and/or oral evidence.

WITNESS, the Honorable ATTY. JOSE EDUARDO L. NATIVIDAD, Regional Director, this 13th day of July 2017, Baguio City.

ATTY. JESSIE C. BALAGOT
Hearing Officer

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Transportation and Communications
LAND TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING AND REGULATORY BOARD
Cordillera Administrative Region
Baguio City

SATURNINO PALA-OG
Applicant
CASE No. 2001-01-159
NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application filed on June 29, 2017 for the approval of EXTENSION of VALIDITY of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate PJ service for the transportation of passengers and freights on the line: BAGUIO PLAZA - BGH-CAMPO SIOCO and Vice Versa with the use of one (1) unit.

NOTICE is hereby given that this Board shall hear this application on August 11, 2017 at 3:25 PM the LTRFB Office, Pacdal Baguio City in which date and time applicant shall formally submit his/her/their evidences.

At least ten (10) days prior to the above date, the applicant/s shall publish the NOTICE once in one (1) daily newspaper of general circulation in the Cordillera Administrative Region.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written oppositions supported by documentary evidence on or before the above date, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant/s and if they so desire, appear during the hearing.

This application shall be acted upon the Board on the basis of its records and the documentary evidences submitted by the parties, unless the Board deem necessary to receive additional documentary and/or oral evidence.

WITNESS, the Honorable ATTY. JOSE EDUARDO L. NATIVIDAD, Regional Director, this 13th day of July 2017, Baguio City.

ATTY. JESSIE C. BALAGOT
Hearing Officer

ERRATUM
In a Notice of Hearing for Sale and Transfer with extension of CPC Case No. 2005-BENG-CAR-1035 filed by Trinidad Garcia published in the September 10, 2016 issue of this paper, the application should be for Extension of Validity and not as inadvertently published.
(SGD) The Junction OIC

**CA upholds legality of...
...from page 3**

out that it is necessary for both parties to present evidence to settle the factual issues of the case that the operation of the batching plant is an environmental hazard and that the destruction of the environment has continued at an increasing and alarming rate and the CA recognized the necessity to curb the same and the objective of the City Council to protect the tourism industry of the city as well as the health of its people and a healthful ecology, is commendable as long as it does not contravene the Constitution.

While the city can regulate the operation of batching plants to ensure their compliance with environmental laws, not even under the guise of police power, the CA stipulated Ordinance No. 043, series of 2007 was enacted within the limits of the Constitution, as there was no absolute prohibition against all batching plants, but only those that are inimical to a balanced and healthful ecology.

However, the CA noted the local government must show that the owner of the Camp 7 batching plant violated the said ordinance justifying the issuance of the closure order being questioned. The case was remanded to the local court for the conduct of a full blown hearing regarding violations. /By Dexter A. See

Council in coordination with the representatives of the institutions of higher education which will identify exemplary campus security policies, procedures and practices which have been proven effective in the reduction of campus crime.

"No institution shall deny to an alleged victim of any crime of violence, the result of any disciplinary proceeding conducted by the institution against the alleged perpetrator with respect to such crime," the ordinance noted. /Aileen P. Refuerzo

**Crime prevention policies...
...from page 3**

thereafter, prepare, publish, and distribute through appropriate publications, to all current students and employees, and to any applicant for enrolment or employment upon request, an annual security report."

The report must contain information with respect to the campus security policies and campus crime statistics of that institution and the following:

"A statement of current campus policies regarding procedures and facilities for students and a report on criminal action emergencies occurring on campus, including policies concerning the institution's response to such reports;

"A statement of current policies concerning security and access to campus facilities including dormitories inside the campus, and security consideration →

used in the maintenance of said facilities;
"A statement of current policies on campus law enforcement including enforcement authority of security personnel, including their working relationship with national and local police agencies, and policies which encourage accurate and prompt reporting of all crimes to the police;

"A description of programs designed to inform students and employees about the prevention of crimes;
"Statistics showing the occurrence on campuses of cases of murder, rape, physical injury, robbery and sexual harassment; and
"A statement of policy regarding the possession, use and sale of alcoholic beverages and enforcement of underage drinking laws."

The said statistics will be reviewed by the Office of the City Mayor and the Committee on Education, Culture and Historical Research of the City →

NNC urges the public to focus on healthy diet to avoid non-communicable diseases

BAGUIO CITY - The National Nutrition Council (NNC) in the region urges everyone to focus on healthy diet to control overweight and obesity across all ages in line with this year's celebration of Nutrition Month.

Regional Nutrition Program Coordination Rita Papey in a recent kapihan said there is an increasing prevalence of overweight and obesity not only in the Cordillera region but nationwide.

The increasing incidence of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) or lifestyle related diseases is one of the health concerns and primarily related to unhealthy diet, she said.

Nutrition Officer Bella Basalong explained an unhealthy diet is composed of foods that are energy-dense yet nutrient poor and are high in saturated fats, trans fats,

refined carbohydrates or sodium. A diet low in fruits and vegetables or fiber is also characteristic of an unhealthy diet.

Unhealthy diet leads to poor nutrition and is one of the major risk factors for a range of chronic diseases, including cardiovascular diseases, certain cancers, diabetes and other conditions linked to obesity, she added.

Basalong announced that in line with this year's Nutrition Month celebration, NutriWalk is set on the 4th week of July. NNC also intends to conduct a wellness in the workplace workout for selected regional Nutrition Committee members. Local government units and schools in the region will conduct their own activities.

Meanwhile, in schools, Department of Education Public Affairs Chief Geraloy Palao-ay said the Department of Education

has issued Department Order No. 13 series of 2017 Policy and Guidelines on Healthy Food and Beverage Choices in schools and DepEd offices.

This policy aims to make available healthier food and beverage choices among the learners and DepEd personnel and their stakeholders; provide guidance in evaluating and categorizing foods and drinks and provide guidance in the selling and marketing of foods and beverages in schools.

NNC also encourages everyone to check the National Guidelines for Filipinos (NGF), Pingang Pinoy and Nutritional Guide Pyramid to get a list of what to eat to become healthy through their website www.nnc.gov.ph.

The 2017 Nutrition Month theme is "Healthy diet, gawing habit - FOR LIFE!" /PIA-CAR

Buguias town to eventually co-own hydropower plant being built by BENECON

Cordillera communities at a loss on how to deal with influential power companies harnessing their water resources for renewable energy generation may well learn to negotiate for benefits offered by the Benguet Electric Cooperative (BENECON) to Buguias, Benguet in its first hydro power generation project.

Topping the benefits accruing to the community, the Buguias municipal government will eventually co-own the three-megawatt (3,000

kilowatts) Man-asok hydroelectric plant being built at Sebang, Buguias to the tune of P451,143,461.

"Ownership after 25 years - 50 percent owned by BENECON and 50 percent owned by the Bguias Municipal LGU on the 26th year until the life of the Mini-hydroelectric plant," the project fact sheet prepared by project staff Joe Victor Damoslog and noted by PGO manager Ricardo Pallogan.

This provision in the project contract topped benefits to the host community

within the current developer-community tie-up covering hydroelectric power construction and operation.

Aside eventual co-ownership, Buguias will also receive four additional benefits aside from the mandatory benefits provided under Republic Act No. 9513 or Renewable Energy Act of 2008.

"On top of these additional voluntary benefits provided by BENECON is a royalty of P0.2197 per kilowatt-hour to the host community, an item absent in other contracts for hydro generation being implemented in the Cordillera," Damoslog said.

The three other additional voluntary benefits are P0.0689 per kilowatt-hour going to the municipal government, P0.2197 per KWH royalty



THE DRILL MUST GO ON - City officials and employees cover their heads during a city hall-wide earthquake drill as they calmly walk to a designated evacuation area in spite of a rainshower. / By Bong Cayabyab

Family of OFW due for head surgery in Singapore appeals for help

BAGUIO CITY - The family of a pregnant Overseas Filipino Worker who suffered a stroke and is now due for a costly head operation in Singapore is appealing for help.

Leona Wal last week aired the appeal of son Walter for financial assistance for wife Liezl, 32, who is 17 weeks pregnant to undergo an operation at the Singapore General Hospital to remove the veins that caused her hemorrhagic stroke last July 2.

It will be Liezl's second surgery after undergoing an emergency craniotomy which left half of her skull open.

The second operation will cost 100,000 Singapore dollars or P3.5 million. This is on top of the patient's interim

hospital bill which has run to 32,500 Singapore dollars or around P1.14 million as of July 13.

"Our family is in dire need and we therefore appeal for any generous help you may extend to us for the very expensive hospital bills of my wife. We also solicit for your prayers for a miraculous healing power to pour upon my wife and our baby," Wal appealed in a letter.

Both husband and wife have been working in Singapore for over a year after getting married in March 2016 and have yet to qualify for permanent residency and thus are still not eligible for medical subsidy.

"Being pregnant with our first baby, now on her 18th week of gestation makes her case more com-

plicated. At the moment she is being cared of at the Neuroscience Intensive Care Unit (of the hospital)," Wal said.

Liezl and her baby are reportedly now in a stable condition. Liezl is undergoing therapy and will stay in the hospital until her surgery.

Leona said their family members based here have been trying to do their best to help the couple by providing moral support and sourcing funds for them.

But with the enormity of the fund needed, "every little bit helps," Wal was quoted as saying as he set up an GIVE.asia page online to solicit help.

Those who would like to help may contact Evelyn Manalog through celfone number 09182775350. / Aileen P. Refuerzo

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community that BENECON general manager Gerardo Verzosa termed as most competitive

of indigenous people's organization, P0.0100 per KWH going to corporate social responsibility and P0.0050 per KWH going to a watershed management fund.

These means a total of P0.3725 per KWH levelized for 25 years which is targeted to generate annually 15,000,000 kilowatt-hours.

The mandatory benefits accruing to Buguias are P0.375 percent of the gross receipts as local business tax; one percent

of gross income as government share/national wealth tax; 10 percent of assessed value of land as special real property tax on land; 1.5 percent of original cost less depreciation as special tax on equipment; P0.01 per kwh as financial benefit to host communities; P0.30 per square meter per year as special land use (public land) permit or special use agreement in protected areas if within a protected area; and P4 to P4.60 per square meter per month

for private land rental. The project, the first of its kind to be undertaken by BENECON, was turned over last February to PHESCO, the contractor, and is expected to be finished in 2018.

BENECON has tapped Gugler Water Turbines-GmbH or Goldsworth, Austria, one of the top suppliers of hydropower turbines, to manufacture and supply the turbine generator set of the facility," Pallogan said. / Ramon Dacawi